

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-44 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mack. All of the claims in the above entitled application recite a first mobile robot and a second mobile robot. One of the robots has an input device that allows user to control movement of the other robot. The system disclosed in Mack does not disclose this feature.

The figure on page 571 of Mack discloses a robotic system that has a control console on one end of the system and a separate collection of robotic arms at another point in the system. The arms are mounted to a surgical table. The arms are fixed to the table and are thus not a "mobile" robot. Additionally, although the console has an input device, the input arms of the console control movement of the robotic arms relative to a patient. The input arms do not control movement of a mobile robot across a floor surface as recited in the claims.

Dependent claims 2, 11, 20, 24, 33, and 42 recite a camera and monitor that allow for teleconferencing. Mack does not show a mobile robot that has both a camera and a monitor. One of the robotic arms shown in Mack holds an endoscope. Endoscopes have a camera, but not a monitor. The control console only has a monitor, but not a camera. Consequently, these dependent claims are also patentably distinct from the Mack reference. In view of the above reasons, the Applicant submits that Mack does not anticipate claims 1-44.

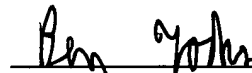
In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the rejection is requested. Allowance of claims 1-44 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

IRELL & MANELLA, LLP

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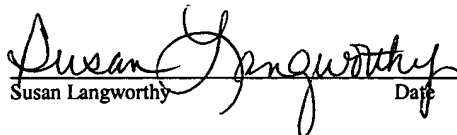


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Susan Langworthy

Date

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